

TWO NEW SPECIES FROM THE VICINITY OF HONGKONG

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With three text-figures

IN THE course of identifying a collection of plants made by Mr. Y. W. Taam at Hongkong, Lantao Island, and Hongkong, New Territory, I was rather surprised to note several apparently undescribed species from a limited area that has been intensively explored from a botanical standpoint for more than a century. The material studied represents approximately 575 numbers, and it was submitted to me by Prof. H. H. Bartlett of the University of Michigan, who financed the field work. The material was well selected and well prepared.

Two novelties are described in this paper. In addition to these, one species previously described from outside of China is recorded for the first time from that country. A third species illustrated is what I take to be the little known *Maackia australis* (Dunn) Takeda. Incidentally, the collection contains a number of species previously described from various parts of Kwangtung Province but which hitherto have not been recorded from Hongkong and Lantao Islands or from Hongkong, New Territory. Naturally, the collection made in what is a most important classical region contains a great many topotypes — that is, specimens collected from approximately the same localities as were those on which many scores of descriptions of new species were based. Fortunately it was possible for Mr. Taam to ship his material to the United States before the Japanese occupation of Hongkong took place. In addition to the few records included in this paper, his material showed clearly that the Kwangtung-Hongkong form long passing as *Hippocratea obtusifolia* Roxb., the type of which was from India, is actually rather remote from that species, and elsewhere in this Journal (p. 170) Dr. A. C. Smith has described this as a new species of *Loeseneriella*.

ORCHIDACEAE

Eulophia R. Brown

Eulophia macrorhiza Blume, Fl. Jav. Orch. 155 (Orch. Archipel. Ind. 183). t. 63, f. 2, t. 66B. 1858.

HONGKONG: Lantao Island, near Tungchung, rare in thickets, Y. W. Taam 2092, June 3, 1941, det. C. Schweinfurth. A variable species extending from Java to Celebes, New Guinea, and the Philippines (Luzon, Leyte); new to the area and to China.

LEGUMINOSAE

Maackia Ruprecht & Maximowicz

Maackia ellipticocarpa sp. nov. FIG. 1.

Frutex circiter 2 m. altus, inflorescentiis exceptis glaber vel subglaber (floribus ignotis); ramis teretibus levibus, atro-purpureis vel olivaceo-purpureis, conspersissime lenticellatis, ramulis ultimis glabris, 2 mm.

diametro; foliis 9–15 cm. longis, foliolis 7–9, ovatis vel elliptico-ovatis, plerumque acutis vel leviter acuminatis basi plerumque rotundatis, interdum obtusis, subcoriaceis, 2–4.5 cm. longis, 1.2–2.5 cm. latis, olivaceis, subopacis, subtus paullo pallidioribus, utrinque glaberrimis, nervis primariis utrinsecus circiter 6, arcuato-anastomosantibus, subtus elevatis, distinctis, reticulis ultimis subconfertis; petiolulis leviter incrassatis, 1–1.5 mm. longis; inflorescentiis terminalibus, sub fructu ad 12 cm. longis, ramis primariis 2 vel 3, racemiformibus, partibus junioribus obscure breviter pubescentibus glabrescentibus; pedicellis 5 mm. longis, obscure breviter adpresse pubescentibus, vetustioribus glabrescentibus; fructibus ellipticis vel oblongo-ellipticis, compressis, 2–3.5 cm. longis, 1–1.5 cm. latis, valvis

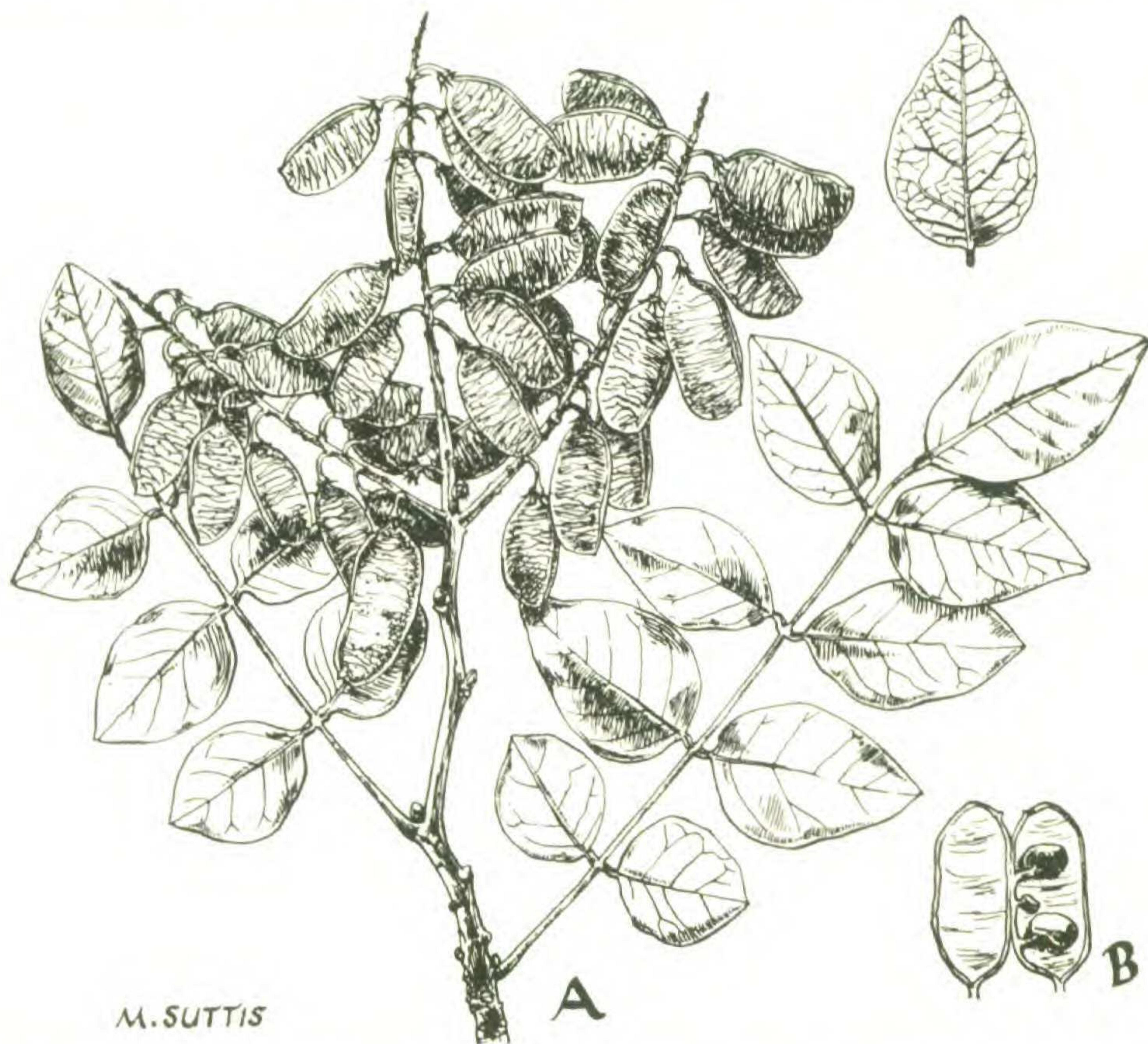


FIG. 1. *Maackia ellipticarpa* Merrill: a. a fruiting branchlet, $\times \frac{1}{2}$; b. a pod with seeds, $\times \frac{1}{2}$.

glabris vel deorsum leviter adpresse pubescentibus, distincte consperseque glandulosis, utrinque rotundatis vel basi interdum late acutis vel obtusis, irregulariter subtransverse reticulato-venosis, suturis superioribus anguste carinatis, haud alatis; seminibus 1–3, ad 7 mm. longis.

HONGKONG: Lantau Island, near Tungchung, Y. W. Taam 1693, Sept. 12, 1940, abundant on dry clay slopes near the seashore, among scattered shrubs.

This species is clearly allied to *Maackia Tashiroi* (Yatabe) Makino, of southern Japan and the Liu Kiu Islands, differing in its fewer leaflets and its distinctly glandular fruit-valves. The original illustration of *Cladrastis Tashiroi* Yatabe, Bot. Mag. Tokyo 6: 345. t. 10. 1892, is excellent, and we fortunately have a fine series of specimens from Oshima representing the species, these with both flowers and fruits. The number of leaflets on this

material varies from 9 to 15 on each leaf. Makino, Notes Bot. Gard. Edinb. 8: 102. 1913, has explained the confusion regarding *Derris chinensis* Benth., the fruiting specimen of which, from Oshima, actually represents *Maackia Tashiroi* (Yatabe) Makino, while the Hongkong flowering specimen represents *Millettia pulchra* Benth.

Maackia australis (Dunn) Takeda, Notes Bot. Gard. Edinb. 8: 102. t. 27, f. 57-62. 1913. FIG. 2.

Cladrastis australis Dunn, Kew Bull. Add. Series 10: 86. 1912.

HONGKONG: Lantau Island, Y. W. Taam 2134, June 7, 1941, a shrub 2 m. high, abundant on damp slopes among scattered shrubs, flowers white, odorless.

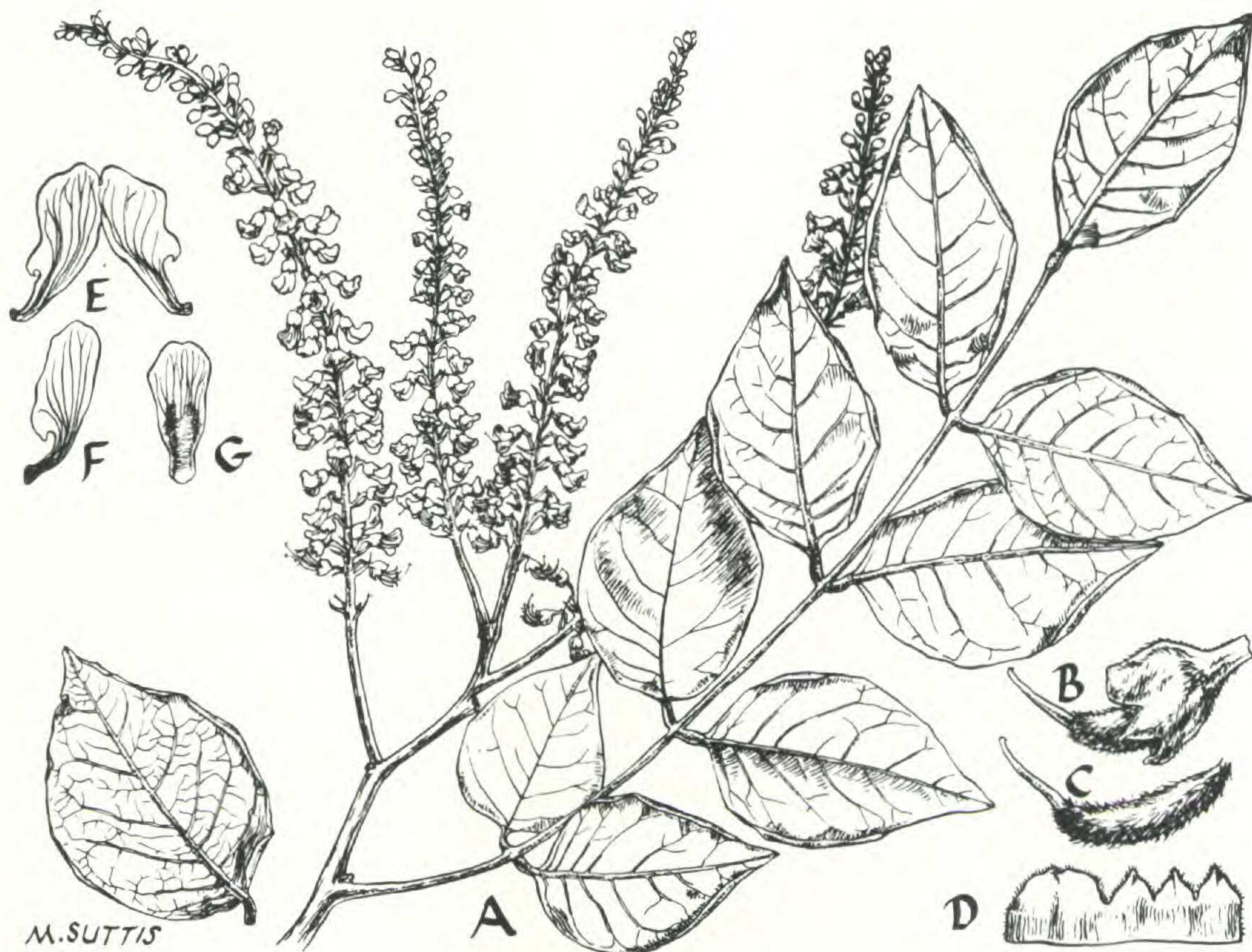


FIG. 2. *Maackia australis* (Dunn) Takeda: a. a flowering branch, $\times \frac{1}{2}$; b. calyx, ovary, and style; c. ovary and style; d. calyx, spread, showing the three small lobes and the fourth larger one; e. keel petals; f. a wing petal; g. standard; b-g all enlarged.

When this specimen was first studied it was thought to represent a distinct species, because of certain discrepancies between its characters and those of *Cladrastis australis* Dunn as indicated in the original description of the latter, and in Takeda's consideration of it. In this Taam specimen the standard is oblong or narrowly oblong-obovate, not ovate as in Dunn's description, and the leaflets have 7 or 8 pairs of lateral nerves rather than 5. Dunn described the leaflets of his species as "in apicem obtusum angustata," but Takeda, on the basis of the same material that Dunn had, says that they are mucronulate, and his figure, t. 27, f. 61, shows them to be very slenderly and sharply acuminate. His figure of the standard, t. 27, f. 60,

shows it to be very narrowly oblong-obovate (not ovate as Dunn says), the slender nerves extending to the base, the basal parts not thickened and nerveless or nearly so as in the Taam collection. A re-examination of the type specimen and a comparison of the Taam material with it is desirable, as it may reasonably be expected that there are certain errors in the original description, or possibly representatives of more than a single species were included.

Dunn's description was based on a collection made on the North West River in Kwangtung Province, and a Millet collection, "*Sophora* from China, Hort. Soc. Hort. Lond. 1838," indicating that the species was cultivated in England at that date. It is by no means impossible that this Millet specimen was grown from seeds collected by him on Lantao Island. Takeda says that the Millet specimen in the Kew Herbarium bears the date 1835. Certainly at the date indicated there was no possibility of the Millet collection having been made on the North West River in Kwangtung Province.

EBENACEAE

Diospyros Linnaeus

Diospyros Taamii sp. nov. FIG. 3.

Arbor parva, circiter 7 m. alta, partibus junioribus fructibusque exceptis glabra; ramis teretibus, glabris, in sicco longitudinaliter subrugosis, ramulis



FIG. 3. *Diospyros Taamii* Merrill: a. a fruiting branch, $\times \frac{1}{2}$; b. a leaf, with a portion enlarged to show the ultimate reticulations; c. an immature fruit, $\times 1\frac{1}{2}$; d. cross-section of an immature fruit, showing the persistent sepals; e. an individual sepal, dorsal view; f. dorsal view of a fruiting calyx; all somewhat enlarged.

ultimis gracilibus, glabris, 1 mm. diametro; foliis firmiter chartaceis vel subcoriaceis, utrinque glabris, in sicco pallidis, oblongis vel oblongo-ellipticis, 6–10 cm. longis, 2–4 cm. latis, sursum angustatis, distincte sed obtuse acuminatis, basi subrotundatis vel late acutis, nervis primariis utrinsecus 5 vel 6, supra obscuris, subtus distinctis, elevatis, curvato-adscendentibus, arcuato-anastomosantibus, utrinque sat dense reticulatis sed vix foveolatis; petiolo 6–8 mm. longo, glabro; floribus ignotis; fructibus in ramulis ultimis solitariis vel 2 vel 3 in ramulis specialibus racemosim dispositis, his plus minusve subadpresse hirsutis et aliquando foliiferis, fructibus globosis, immaturis circiter 1 cm. diametro, 8-locellatis, densissime adpresse breviter pallide pubescentibus; sepalis persistentibus coriaceis, ovatis, circiter 1 cm. longis et 8 mm. latis, sursum leviter angustatis, rotundatis, utrinque dense subreticulato-venosis, venis venulisque subelevatis, extus consperse hirsutis, pilis longis, adpressis, pallidis.

HONGKONG: Lantau Island, Tai Shan, *Y. W. Taam 2169*, June 12, 1941, abundant on moist slopes in thickets.

With fruiting material alone available it is difficult to place this rather strongly marked species in its proper group. It seems to be allied to *Diospyros Tutcheri* Dunn, but in that species the fruits are described as glabrous.

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